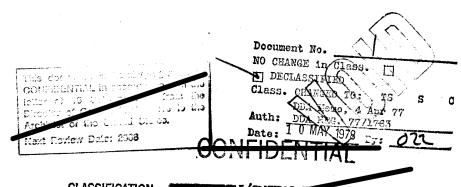


- 1. Fighting between Government forces and rebellious elements in the Province of Begendir continued throughout October 1948 and into November. During the course of the disturbances 300 wounded Government soldiers were taken to the hospital in Gondar and of these 15 died. No exact information is available concerning the number of Government dead but it is believed locally that it is considerable. Government officers claim that "very many" rebels were killed.
- 2. During the first part of November there were very few clashes. The Government offered to pardon the rebels if they would return to their villages and surrender their arms. This offer was refused, however, and the rebels are now concentrated in the hills north of Gondar.
- 3. Ethiopian government officials and army officers attempt to minimize the extent and seriousness of the fighting, especially when talking to foreigners. The 20th Battalion has delayed its scheduled transfer from the area for some weeks and is now at Azozo, 10 miles south of Gondar. The Battalion Commander states that he and his men are needed there because of the absence of many of the Gondar Police who are on training duty elsewhere in the province.
- 4. On 28 November 1948 there was some shooting between Government soldiers and rioters in the town of Dessie. Comment. Dessie is the normal residence of the Crown Prince but conditions are so unsettled now that he



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